



# **COVID-19 PANDEMIC POEMS**

**VOLUME IV**

**EDITOR**

**Aara Mithilee M L**

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## Introduction

**“A work of art is the trace of a magnificent struggle.”**

Grace Hartigan, a contemporary American painter.

From Wuhan, China to all parts of the world, a pandemic identified as Covid 19 came to engulf humanity in the darkness of worries as well as fears of losing loved ones and never get back our previous life. In addition, the pandemic widely spread from the wet markets in China to reach far and wide in the globe, putting under scrutiny mankind's science, legislation, economics and politics. Words such as quarantine, confinement, lockdown and social distancing have become staple in our daily conversations in media shows and made the headlines in newspapers and on various social media platforms. All of which announce a drastic change in our existence that adds to our sorrow and grief.

Long has the importance of art in mankind's life art been questioned. It dates back to the days of Plato when he asserted that art is a meticulous reproduction of life. Aristotle theorized about the purifying nature of art easing Man's grief. It is in this vein that art has never been viewed as a random creation but a vivid voice to humanity's concerns and struggles as suggested by Hartigan. Art can only spring up from our lived experiences and granting them a universal dimension. Similarly, poetry as one of the oldest artistic genres has long been associated with life and experiences. Especially, in darker times, poetry came to hold the torch of light and allow Man to reach the end of the tunnel and what darker could be nowadays than the haunting ghost of Covid 19 pandemic that turns humanity apart and questions its achievements.

Intellectual avenues, scientific laboratories and media shows are seeking to fathom the deep impacts of the virus, decode its nature and speculate on its consequences. Politicians, economists and scientists all find room to talk about people's worries. Amid this amalgamation, people are in need of something to ease tension, sooth pain and restore hope in the darkest of moments. Yet, at the very same time put in words their inner struggle and worries.

Poetry has found its own way. This way that touches the soul and the mind. In this vein, the present COVID 19 theme-based poetry compilation project opens the door to discuss, express their worry, fear, hope and aspiration. These poems spring up from personal and collective experiences that manifest human suffering during Covid 19. The fights for



life and the desire for survival. In rhymed or free verses, in elaborate or direct structure, the human experience of Covid 19 is transmitted to our reader reflecting the experience's most genuine mood and tone. From victims to warriors, the writers of these poems stand as humanity's armor in the face of darkness, nothingness and death.

Covid 19 hits humanity when it was least expected. Yet, it teaches us a lesson of solidarity, empathy and compassion to transcend our differences and explore our common hopes and dreams. Affecting all aspects of life Coronavirus has put our world and our art on a new path. These collected poems adequately manifest this change and transmit its spirit to the reader, seeking to ease tension and call for hope. It is a call for a better world. Where science may fail, art, mainly poetry will succeed to grant humanity an answer and an assurance that as long as mankind creates as long as there is life.

In summary, these collected poems carry a "trace of a magnificent struggle" for creation, survival and life. No greater wisdom can ever be found than in a work of art that speaks to the mind and soul as well as stands in the face of gloominess and despair. No greater joy can be reached than in words inked with personal and collective experiences that trigger the essence of mankind.

**Dr Cyrine Kortas**, The Higher Institute of Languages, Gabes,  
University of Gabes, Tunisia

&

**Dr Morve Roshan K.**, College of International Studies, Southwest  
University China, and School of History, Philosophy and Social Sciences,  
Bangor University, United Kingdom.

## Foreword

*It was the **best** of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us,....*

What other words than these can better represent the agony and uncertainty of the present times? Humanity is embroiled in an unequal battle with a belligerent virus. The entire life is in disarray. Confusing alarms emanate from clueless managers who grope, flounder, fail and fall. The fear of loss and death, the scare for loss of jobs and means, the threat of hunger, uncontrollable migration and the cruel indifference of the state stay thick in the air blurring the visibility, vicissitudes and any possibility for a getaway. Human life and dignity has taken a thorough beating. The creative mind on journey with time, space and context cannot but seize the very same momentum and run in tandem with the pandemic which is the only concern of relevance. It is reasonable for the poets to recreate their fear and hope that they draw from their very real personal experience to represent in poetic forms expressing what it means to live in such turbulent times.

The present anthology, *Covid-19 Pandemic Poems* pursues themes of unendurable fear, sense of loss and pain alongside realization of man's limitations, reconciliation to the inevitable, hope for a course correction in the reckless materialistic longings for wealth and power. The poems, included in this anthology, in essence disrobe human vanity to exhibit the naked futility of all human endeavours and achievements. As associated with all tragic situations, there is an expression of denial, lamenting on the incredulity of such a pandemic occurrence. Some poets capture the escalation of mindless anger against the possible source of the virus or the omnipotent creator with a question why should we suffer this cruelty, manmade or otherwise. Yet others venture to make a deal, with a bargain of sincere adherence to the restrictions to spare them of the pain. When all these prayers do not make any sense, bottomless depression overtakes. A few of them are sensible to cool their feet and confess acceptance of the

unquestionable sacred norms of life. Touching the lives of commoners, the anthology expands circle of its concern to all, from the desperate migrants to the firm-rooted elite class.

In this way, the anthology is more than a veritable thesis on the pandemic, making an interesting guide to discerning students, scholars and critics alike. It would be a big loss to anyone if this valuable anthology is sidestepped. I am impressed to know that this is the fourth volume of Cape Comorin publisher. It is a laudable attempt to capture and record the spirit of the times in its flesh and blood when the sizzling heat still simmers. The editor and the publisher deserve sincere appreciation.

**Dr. C. Jeyasekar, Principal**  
**White Memorial College of Arts and Science for Women**  
**Panachamoodu, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India**

## Editor



Aara Mithilee M L is a faculty in the Department of English at White Memorial College of Arts and Science for Women, Kerala, India. After her Masters in English from Loyola College, Chennai, India and Masters in Education from Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Thiunelveli, India. Her research carrier includes, Pandemic Literature, Tamilazan Writing in English, Science Fiction, Contemporary Trends in Teaching, and Educational Technology. She has published her research findings in leading journals and presented papers in various National and International conferences. She has organised Two International Conferences and presented papers in more than thirty conferences. She showed her creativity and intelligence right from her schooling resulted in various achievements. Active member of Literary Clubs, Cultural Secretary in College, Member of Women Cell in University, and member of various committees. She is the Join Secretary of Cape Comorin Trust, India and one of the Managing Editor of Cape Comorin: An International Multidisciplinary Double Blind Peer-Reviewed Research Journal.



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## **1. This is War**

Our shadows were no longer under the sun,  
Streets were no longer buzzed by man,  
The days where we're free were now gone,  
Now it's all coming; war had begun!

'Tis now the battle for our freedom,  
We've got no time nor season to be glum.  
Do not be enrage by each other's chasm,  
Stay behind our doors and follow the dictum.

Pray for this world's healing,  
Hope for better days coming,  
Support the knights that keep on fighting,  
Keep on practicing social distancing.

There's no more coming back!  
To the "new normal" we're on track.  
Be vigilant for the invisible behemoth's attack,  
Your death would be brought by your slack.

Keep science and faith together.  
Trust our scientists and researchers  
That vaccines, they would formulate sooner,  
And that anti-bodies, they would find faster.

Acknowledge that we got by because of technology  
During these crisis due to virus's ferocity.  
Information and data, we were able to see,  
News and updates we were privileged to get free.

The war had begun, as so it seem.  
But science and technology saved us from dim.  
The traces of this war, they would skim,  
Triumph in finding cure, soon they would hymn!



The war would soon be ended,  
Our wounded hearts shall be mended,  
The end is near for our fiend,  
Our freedom soon shall be redeemed!

--Karen Arlaiza O. Mendoza, Philippines

## **2. Covid-19 Trying Times**

Daily death updates  
Daily sick updates  
Daily morgue updates  
Daily hygiene updates

Human movement controlled  
People forced to stay home  
Businesses are closed  
Only essential services allowed

Covid19 shocks the world  
Paralyzing economies  
Self distancing for all  
Seven billion petrified & humbled

What is takeaway from Covid19  
Human is zero  
A microbe is hero  
The rat race is zero

Death has no class  
Death has no religion  
Death has no rich or poor  
Death is so very certain

Tsunami came and left  
Thinking we will change  
We did for a week or a month  
Then we became ourselves again

Covid19 is not an ailment  
It is a lesson from nature  
To teach us a strong lesson  
We are equal in the eyes of god

Let's unite as human being  
Let's not bring religion to divide  
Let's support good deeds  
Let's be colorless in all our meets

Covid19 is a great reason to unite  
Breaking walls, hearts and lives  
Bringing man to his knees  
Crumbling his egos and ethos!

--Ravindran Raman Kutty, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### **3. The Curse**

Take this message into your chatroom!  
Say it out loud and make it boom!  
A welcome to the virus,  
which comes with a curse

I remind you again,  
so, it won't be foreign  
about today and yesterday.  
Everything will be gone if you walk away

Because it could be the end of civilization,  
and there will be no more harmonization  
The environment slapped by degradation,  
do you really want to say goodbye to the nation?

--Berya Kamayan A.M, University of 17 Agustus 1945, Surabaya, Indonesia

#### **4. Corona in the Swing Spring is the Season**

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil Is Very Free

Spring is the season  
Flower is on the swing  
Month is February  
Everyone is Free

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free

Birds are on the Tree  
Month is February  
Spring is the season  
Green is every thing

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free

Flowers on motorway  
Plum on the runway  
Flower in the Garden  
Each one in Madain

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free

Go Students to Merry  
Visit they the Hilly  
Happy is every one  
Spring is the season

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free

Ground Full People  
Like the Cacole  
Play all they Game  
Everyone is Fame

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free

Farming is very green  
Flower is in the Scene  
Draw Photo Everyone  
Spring is the season

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free



God is Creature  
All things Producer  
Earth is on the World  
God is the Owner

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free

Spring is the Season  
Coruna in the Swing  
People Killing in World  
Each one in the Cupboard

Corona in the Swing  
Spring is the Season  
Bad World Economy  
Oil is Very Free

Dr.Naushad Khan  
He is the Mardan  
Village is Qasami  
Near the Kharky

-- Dr. Naushad Khan, The University of Agriculture Peshawar, Pakistan

## **5. A Recompense**

White walls stare  
at me,  
As minutes go by.  
Doctor 'n nurse  
talking in hushed whispers,  
Tell me the reason why.  
My chest pains  
as if being pricked  
by a thousand needles.  
My mind seems  
to be falling off  
A steep precipice..  
My wife, my two children  
all left behind—  
I lie here, isolated  
in antiseptic confinement.  
The oxygen mask  
Clamped to my nostrils  
seem more suffocating..  
I cry out..  
And no sound is heard.  
Then I understand --  
my soul is getting ready  
to leave the diseased body.  
My heart pauses, slowing..  
Awaiting the final signal  
from the brain..  
To stop the beat.  
Then—  
I hear footsteps,  
I see someone enter--  
“Shall I pray for you?”  
I can only nod ‘yes’.  
I close my eyes..  
For the final journey.  
“My God! My God!  
Have mercy upon this son, I pray!”

Suddenly, the dying sun  
Flash an iridescence  
Brilliance....  
I tremble, and slip...  
Into forgetfulness.  
Days have passed  
since that day  
When I was cured  
By a miracle from heaven.  
As I sit in my lawn  
Looking at the bright morning  
I say gratefully:  
“My Lord! How great thou art!”

**Postscript:** This is a true story of a miracle that happened to a COVID -19 infected, seriously ill man in Italy.

-- Dr. Ancy Eapen, Jain Deemed-to-be University, Bangalore, India

## **6. Battling Pandemic**

People dying, children crying,  
World of hope, now collapsing.  
Because of pandemic, we are in trouble  
No one is safe, every person is susceptible.

Inspite of this, people bash, people hate.  
Pleading for help but does not want to cooperate.  
Ranting about the government in social media.  
Hoping to be the crowned leader, but does not want corona.

The rules are simple, for instance,  
Just wear mask and adhere to social distance.  
Do not lose your vision and cure your cataract.  
Hope will rise again and we will look into that.

Gratitude to the frontliners, for helping the community.  
Keep curing the sick and providing wise security.  
Covid-19 will surely end and this is my advocacy.  
World peace, one love and everyone's unity.

-- Nora V. Marasigan, Malvar, Batangas, Philippines

## **7. Heal the Earth**

Empty and dark were the streets  
Lifeless was the city.  
Storms broke things apart  
Light had deemed  
The apocalypse was nearing  
It seemed.  
The cloud of death  
Covered the earth  
A monster breath  
Beneath the soil.  
Like the caged bird  
We sang inside our mansion  
//We shall overcome//  
It was the time for compassion  
Unity, strength and positivity.  
We stood on the verge of devastation  
Yet didn't lose humanity.  
Warriors fighting the battle  
Had casualties  
Prayers were chanted among the mass  
we told ourselves  
"this too shall pass".  
Survival wasn't easy  
Giving up wasn't an option  
Mother Earth needed to be healed  
To emerge out as it's better version.

-- Srestha Sarkar, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India



## **8. Covid19 mission unaccomplished..... ?**

Tarnished was the image of mother Earth,  
before corona the life on earth was incongruous berth,  
the ways for the rays of Almighty was in dearth,  
alpha beta Gamma were the words that rung the girth,  
of the atmosphere where nuclear test played the mirth,  
the roasting politics and slavery had an astonishing flight,  
when industrious beings burned the biospheric blight,  
the way humans sought refuge in nature's benight,  
delve the sphere to which it could be exploited without contrite,  
swayed the balance of ecosystem with longing plight,  
with the march of virus shattered man's delight,  
engaged were his dream with oppressed might,  
lockdown calls prevented him to cross borders of sight,  
the divine line of the house was the path reignite,  
to stay in isolation and satiate the guilt and stay upright,  
the turn of tables played well for the divine to rewrite,  
the fountain of justice and empathize the creation's frostbite,  
the river water gained it's earlier era in this nature's floodlight,  
the winds became devoid of particulates that were recondite,  
the sky is clear and free of pollutants which flared gaslight,  
the breezy trees pull the beautiful chirping to come and alight,  
and the endowment of essence feels like a paradise,  
universe is healing in this era of radiant skylight,  
with the people worrying about themselves today,  
the motive of Covid19 is still like a small sprite.....

-- Rimjhim Asthana, Uttar Pradesh, India

## **9. Corona and *Karuna*, the Mercy**

You are the Leveller and the Paradox incarnate  
And yet Corona, you do not show any *Karuna*, the Mercy.

We, friends and relatives have ample Time  
And yet Corona, you do not allow us to sit together.

See, now, the impassable and paved roads are Empty  
And yet Corona, you do not allow us to step on them.

See, now, the Nature is beautiful and the air pure  
And yet Corona, you compel us to have masks on Faces.

We are in the midst of confusion and Terror  
And yet Corona, we will continue our *Karuna* for Humanity.

This will light up even the Darkest of the days  
And, then Corona, you will ask for our *Karuna*.

-- Dr. Tejesh Beldar, Late B R D Arts and Commerce Mahila Mahavidyalaya,  
Maharashtra, India

### **10. Corona Virus –The Nature’s Soldier**

Corona in town, we are in lockdown  
Idle all day, becoming like a clown

Cleaning hands all day with sanitizer or savlon  
Leaving the masked part rest face became brown

Corona is travelling the world with its crown  
All human ego and might made to sit down

Complete apocalyptic scene from uptown to downtown  
The few who are out moving dejected and facedown

Nature reclaiming its glory in full blown  
Wilds on the roads enjoying every town

Corona roaming and killing humans with abandon  
Reviving nature and humanity in ways of its own

-- Dr Oliyath Ali, Ladakh, India

## **11. The Great Realization (Covid-19)**

Everyone was busy in their lives  
Morning, Evening, Day & Night

Enjoying the day with full of life  
Morning, Evening, Day & Night

All the places was full of light  
Morning, Evening, Day & Night

Suddenly!

The coronavirus touches the world!  
All the world lost its light  
Morning, Evening, Day & Night

Everyone stays at their homes  
To save their lives and to save others' lives...  
That gives us great realization of life....

-- Miss Hadia Pirzada, UUM International School, Kedah, Malaysia

## **12. Alerting Others.....**

The fickle mind with illusory dreams  
Day in and day out try to tempt us;  
Likewise, the dreaded corona virus  
Is hunting us with its invisible spikes.

Snatching lives with a pandemic bliss  
Millions of humans are threatened by it,  
Encircling every region and continent  
Alarmingly, Covid-19 is endangering us.

It neither showers love nor disparity

But simply spreads death as its priority,  
Keeping aloof from age, gender and region  
Mercilessly, the virus pounces on anyone.

Staying indoors with self-hygienic moves  
We can be safe by driving it beyond doors;  
Alerting others, we need to be cautious  
Lest everyone may fall into its trap, vicious.

-- Ashok Chakravarthy Tholana, Hyderabad Telangana, India

### **13. What has our world come to?**

She was a safe little angel inside the womb,  
She had no clues of what it's like outside her protective shell.

The time was ticking as usual,  
The thunder was grumbling and growling for real.  
She could not breath just like the rest of us,  
She cried thinking it will disappear.

Coughs was her permanent guest,  
Caution was our only shield.

It's sickening to witness the pain, but,  
Its worst to go through the pain.

What has our home come to? Or,  
What have we done to our home?

Once a happy place and now a sadness truck? Or,  
Once a virus free earth and now a mutating slide?  
The sufferings of the new born was incomparable,  
The justice for the new born is inevitable.

Together we make a stand,  
Together we fight the spread.

-- Darshni Gunasekaran, Quest International University, Perak, Malaysia

#### **14. Love in a Different Way**

I love you in a different way  
I love you, so I will not visit you  
I care for you, so I will not hug you  
I love you, so I will practise social distancing  
I love you in a different way  
The covid-19 way

-- Tadisa Maraire, UUM International School, Kedah, Malaysia

#### **15. Fencing Us and Facing Corona**

Let everyone maintain social distancing and retain it in our daily pace  
Let's restrain ourselves during Lock down days  
Let's sustain our intelligence and create resistance within us  
Let's build confidence  
Let's ruin the dominance of unseen villain  
Let's not allow the invisible grow stronger by our negligence and ignorance  
Let's slain this microcosm  
Let's build our strength by the fountain of love  
Let's experience the peace, solace in this globe soon.

-- Dr. Esther Juliet Sujatha S., Salem, Tamil Nadu, India

#### **16. The Virus Novel:**

The Virus which is novel  
Is a novel too.  
It carves stories of the century's novelty;  
From sanitation to custom,  
From conception to reception,

From man to woman,  
From caste to religion,  
From state to nation,  
From right to duty,  
From law to violation,  
From air to food,  
And from food to hunger;  
The hunger which is real,  
The hunger which is discriminating,  
The hunger which is death  
of one caste, one religion, one nation –  
The Underprivileged!

-- Maitri Verma, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

### **17. The Moment We Live**

There was a time I can remember  
The world was alive, with full of dreams  
All of us were running  
Behind our long loved dreams  
Never we saw the shine of the day  
Never we heard the music of the night  
All we saw was the numbers  
That filled our cheques and bills  
All we heard was the rise and fall in market  
And we deliberately forgot  
To love the shades on the sidewalk  
To muse in the shadows of the dusk  
We moved on and on  
Not knowing where we're heading  
Days passed away, things changed  
Slowly our wheels came to a standstill

A freezing wind was blown all around  
To cease our dreams, to take us all  
Then I saw the world motionless  
Dreams all died, thoughts all drained  
The only struggle was for survival  
No more hugs and no more kisses  
We had it all, all enough for a lifetime  
World went sleepless to save  
Millions of struggling souls  
Smiles vanished, desires dried up  
Only hope remained  
To lead us in the dark valley of death  
We find the truth of life, it was  
The moment we breath  
It was a hope to exist  
Then we saw the sunshine down  
from the mountain  
We saw the glimmer of the rain drops  
The warmth of the morning mist  
Yes, this is life; the moment we live..

-- Vishnu Priya R S, HHMSPBNS College, Neeramankara, Kerala, India

### **18. Covid 19 - A Harsh Teacher**

A Mock piece initially,  
Developed into a threat gradually,  
Became a panic creator eventually,  
Declared conditional leaves unconditionally,  
Created a scarcity occasionally,  
Enlarged self-distancing socially,  
Tutored to led life soulfully,  
Brought back our traditional games mindfully,

Reduced overall pollution immensely,  
Revealed the hidden Humanity peacefully,  
Re-educated "The world is for all creatures" pleasantly,  
Punishing the humans dreadfully,  
Re-instructed oneness mournfully.

-- V. Vani Ayyaswariya, Navarasam Arts and Science College for Women,  
Erode, India

### **19. Looking for Hope**

Another ambulance is passing by.  
I'm just a witness sitting by the window,  
Observing the empty streets.  
Never ending traffic jams are just sweet flashbacks,  
Now there only remains silence.

I only read about the great flood and black plagues,  
Never thought this day will come,  
Great shadows of doubt succumbing the last bit of hope.  
Empty railyards, ports and every promise of a prosperous life are  
meaningless now.

Still there is struggle for saving lives,  
Struggle of migrant workers to reach their homes,  
Struggle for ending a meaningless existence  
And building up new images,  
Struggle of a country for betterment.  
As long there is struggle, there is a life, there is a hope, there is a light.

-- Chayan Acharya, New Santoshpur, Kolkata, India



## **20. On an Exile with Self**

Since then...

The Calendar on the wall is stuck with the date of March,  
The time is moving but the days remain the same.  
Albeit, time seems to move but the world is stuck with an apprehension....

Since then...

I am whiling away the time rather becoming sensitive towards the trivia of  
life,

I can feel the slow dripping of the water from the tap,  
The hounding sound of the fan which makes me feel I exist.

Since then...

I have even happened to appreciate the creatures of nature,  
The nest of pigeon, though it existed earlier too in my balcony, but felt its  
presence a few days back,  
Their pecking to each other and the beauty of the flicking neck, makes me  
realise the life breathing within me.

Yet now...

I believe to be on a path of transformation through introspection which  
hardly I did before, guising  
myself underneath the flying time, humdrum of life and conveniently  
procrastinating on my perpetual qualms.  
Thus hoping to come out of cocoon, which rather feared to even look into  
the mirror in the awe of finding a gawky or haggard apparition.

-- Dr.Reena Singh, Amity Institute of English and Study Research  
Amity University, Noida, UP, India

## **21. Abysmal, Resilience and Invocation**

### **Abysmal**

This mundane life fades away into a facade of gloom,  
Whispering of this rat race, Humanity lies broken!  
The course of life isn't easy, filled with tumultuous grief  
Isolation fuels the mind's eye—  
The thorns, how they choke this purgatorial adversity!  
Harbingers of intramural C-A-C-O-P-H-O-N-Y  
Where unrested souls' pray for tolerance,  
Rubbing salts on their wounds—to keep themselves awake.  
Life wouldn't feed them with a silver spoon!  
They have known toils, perilous winters—  
Only the sea satiates their hunger for freedom,  
There they lie staring at the sky, once in a blue moon  
Dreams pass by them like shooting stars—  
Their bedazzled eyes beaming with hope.

-- Kakoli Debnath, Assam, India

## **22. Corona's Monologue**

I am Corona  
Don't mess with me  
If you breathe me  
You lost your breathe..... (I am)  
I am new to this Earth  
I like to teach some  
Lesson to humans..... (I am)  
To wash the hands  
And to be clean  
To avoid the crowd  
And maintain space.....(I am)

To stop spitting on the path  
And to keep their surroundings clean  
To cover their mouth  
While sneezing .....(I am)  
To avoid scratching head  
And rubbing eyes and nose  
WHO has labelled me  
Pandemic  
And who is powerful over me .....(I am)  
For theist I am a challenge  
And for atheist I am an enigma  
Science and Spirituality confront  
Over me for solution  
But  
Unless if you follow all my sayings  
I will exist in this world..... (I am)

-- Dr. C. Geetha, Sri KGS Arts College, Srivaikuntam, India

### **23. Lockdown Charity**

Once I went out  
to have tea.  
There I met a women  
with a baby.  
She hesitated to ask me  
to fulfil her need.  
I gave her  
what I have that time.  
Hope she can buy  
certainly a cup of tea.  
There I realise  
how sweet is chari-t(ea)y.

-- Ayyambala M, Ramanathapuram, India

## **24. Poem on Corona Virus**

Fear grows in my heart; yet remembering past  
Walked everywhere in the fresh air,  
Shining sun comes in the street;  
Playing on swing with children,  
Eating fresh vegetables with family; but  
Burned on the thought of corona,  
Now fear grows in my heart dears.

Fear grows in my heart, yet remaining present  
Crossed flood, wind, fire,  
Pause a moment with fear, yet;  
Meeting a close mate in the park,  
Chatting a friends in schools; but  
Vanished all of disaster virus;  
Fear grows in my heart; afraid of death,  
Fear grows in my heart, yet remaining future  
Now my fingers moved from things,  
It tumble as the thought of corona;  
If touch my beloved go tragic disaster,  
Think wisdom of future; our hand,  
Let's pack our hands with gloves,  
Let's close our nose with mask;  
Fear grows in my heart, beloved;  
Mind in keep and save life

-- M. Arul Freeda Jackuline, Aiman College for Women of Arts and Science  
College, Trichy, India

## **25. Rise of Humanity in Time of Corona**

Aloneness found in the crowded place,  
With having thousand friends in social media place  
People were busy in earning and learning,  
But not now, Pandemic named Corona teaches new learning

Now Rise of Humanity at all level,  
Now Government, NGO are helping at all level  
All got time to think about less fortunate person,  
Now only concern to help fortunate person

Now Rise of Humanity at pick point,  
Helping each other is the only point...

-- Achyut Mukundray Tilavat, Saurashtra University, Gujarat, India

## **26. Covid 19 !!!**

Though you are a pandemic  
You created place for priceless peace  
Though you are terrifying  
You are tranquilizing !

You came as bolt from blue  
And paused our busy lives  
Earth heals in your arrival  
But not all humans can !

Because not all have enough  
To fill their tummies everyday..  
Family times are more  
Staying indoors is fair!!

Poor stay peckish in poverty  
Let them not perish  
Kindly consider them and disappear soon !

-- K. D. Viveka, Coimbatore, India

## **27. A Clarion Call**

If I could stretch my chicken legs a little bit more.

Spread my feathers,  
And flap my wings in the winds of the Bay...

If I could learn how to fly like "Jonathan Swift."  
I swear to accompany the Summer Monsoon.

And continue to ride in the carriage across,  
The mountains and the rivers,  
The hills and the valleys,  
The highs and the lows,  
The cuts and the curves.

Amidst the scattered clouds,  
I see a ray of hope.  
The winds are settling,  
And I feel the blues of the sky.

I raise for a clarion call...  
Tennyson "Come, my friends,  
Tis not too late to seek a newer world.  
One equal temper of heroic hearts,  
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will.  
To strive, to seek, to find, not to yield."

-- Anupama Gurung, REVA University, Bangalore, India

## **28. Conquering Corona**

When roads crave the company of feet,  
Wheels pray to roll back,  
And life to cycle again,  
When lungs of the nation,  
Is strangled by a microbe,  
Escaping all laboratories,  
Winning all medicines,  
Conquering today's,  
Challenging tomorrow's,  
Today fighting the pandemic,  
The world's endemic,  
Ever energetic epidemic,  
We move and move only with hope.  
Roads crave companies,  
Nature craves adorers,  
This hide and seek is resuming.  
That all hidden are sought,  
But seekers stay hidden.  
All that we stay inside,  
With family beside,  
Despair aside,

Hope presides,  
Taking us a healthy nation forward.  
Breaking corona with our confident company  
HOPE...  
Lets honour, hope and harvest happiness.

-- Durga.R, Seethalakshmi Ramaswami College, Trichy, India

### **29. Quarantine**

Come let's confine  
in the abode of peace,  
Let's not loiter around to seek external bliss,  
the nature is shrouded in the veil of chaos,  
commotion of pandemic (Covid-19)  
creating havoc in elms of living beings,  
Man is at her target,  
so let's close ourselves confining to homes,  
let' try to understand each other to drive out our  
past bitterness in the togetherness of affection.

-- Prasanna Kumar, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, India

### **30. Corona**

Here absence is stitched with broad smile, beautiful soul  
broken lines and silent scream engrave on the subway wall,

The shadows of its trees bring unforgettable memories  
the night sky bleeds in grief, knocking on the doors.

Sanitised hands receive bodies, cries litter the narrow alleys



final moments quiver behind the doors and windows.

Winds exchanges nightmares, stars wave unasked  
the attics are filled with welcomes and goodbyes

There is news everywhere, moments are awash with memories  
red spiked corona hovers- it does whatever it wants.

Pendulum is doing back and forth between life and death  
pink gloved hand completes the left-over handshakes

Early morning birds tweet hymns of bright yellow and orange  
sunrays witness the longing in moist eyes leading into the dark.

-- Gopal Lahiri, Rajarhat, Kolkata

### **31. Covid Covid What Are You Doing Here**

Covid covid china product covid,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid why you are damaging our peaceful life,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you we lost our jobs,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you we lost our peace and income,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you we lost our own freedom,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you we can't able to pay our regular investment,  
loan, insurance and our savings,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you our family members, neighbours, friends are  
losing their jobs in abroad,

What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you farmers (back bone of India) couldn't able to  
to sell their goods,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you many of them couldn't get proper food to fulfill  
their hungry,  
What are you doing here?  
Covid covid because of you we felt struggling and sufferings in day to day  
life,  
Go back from our world,  
Go back we want to lead our life in peace and happy,  
Go back Covid, go back.

-- J.L. Rex Lumine Nirmal, Annai Velankanni College, Kanniyakumari, India

### **32. Breakthrough the Lockdown**

All homemakers thinking null differences,  
Boys worrying about empty grounds,  
Children get the chance to be with elders at home  
Daring fathers now caring their family member like foam,  
Even now no women feeling the change,  
Friends apart physically by this caging,  
Group calls are compensating by making them engaging.

Home works for children work from home for workers,  
In that nothing new for homemakers,  
Junking jobs more than the regular days  
Kudos, doing all those with laughs,  
Looking at these all junking tasks  
Men & all realizing the inequalities,  
Nurses portray god/goddesses

Owing to the government by accepting changes,  
Police & other officers got powers,  
Quarters yet have no spiritual towers,  
Roads maintaining with cleanliness,  
Sometimes, like this pandemic  
Teaching that all works have acknowledgments  
Uniqueness of everyone celebrated by light and sounds

Virus COVID 19 also has no exceptions  
Wild animals got the courage to come out hence its  
Xanthic society which reducing the wilderness from people  
Yelled out, no let us sing out with  
Zeal... breakthrough the lockdown.

--Lt. S. Nithya, Karpagam Academy of Higher Education, Coimbatore, India

### **33. Corona single-line quotations**

Fear not  
Sense the danger  
Stay at home  
Wash hands twice  
Isolate self  
Follow the curfew  
Anything will pass  
Help the needy  
Discard doubt  
Retreat is good  
Reading is good  
Food is medicine

This is the need of the hour..

-- Dr. K. Lakshmi, Sri Kanyaka Parameswari Arts and Science College for  
Women, Chennai, India

### **34. Go Corona Go**

You let the whole world bow,  
So we order you to Go Corona Go.  
Whose China is mother and Wuhan is father,  
Illegitimate Corona has no other future.  
You snatched the lives and set the deadly vibes,  
Even Phoenix has also some end after it rise.  
Italy, Spain and France became your hotspots,  
But you are just a bug for Indians' brave hearts.  
Your filthy steps ruining our planet,  
And by entering India, you have yourself decided your dead fate.  
You are a stink, you are a curse,  
Your fate is done , which is utterly and indeedly worse.  
The world knows that Chinese stuff has no guarantee,  
So my dear enemy, very soon the world is going to set free.  
Wherever you will go, you have to face No,  
You are condemned, so as Go Corona Go.

--Ms Pinaki Bakshi, Lecturer, Bhaskar Degree College Udhampur, J&K, India

### **35. We All Smile Again**

We all Smile again  
Good days will come again  
There will be vehicles running on the roads again.  
There will be Shanknad in the temples again  
Aarti bell will be heard again.  
Children will be seen playing in the gardens again.  
Children will go to school again.  
The same crowd will be seen again on the roadside again  
These eyes again see their loved ones,  
We will meet together, again which will remove all sandness, aloneness  
We will all smile again, smile again.  
-- Harshvardhan Singh, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, India

### **36. Unconquered Nature**

Lock, lock, lock  
The entire world is locked.  
But the nature is apart from such lockdowns.  
Quarantined birds, animals, and even the natural resources are now free.

A great twist of Nature.  
As she is far away from quarantine modes.  
Nature knows no lockdown.  
One and only "being" human, who he had locked within the four walls.  
Thus the wall is built up of their acts in the past.  
All those against the nature feels out the revenge made out by her.

She is only the free bird.  
From the hands of great conqueror of the world.  
You don't know that guy  
Surely, he is Corona, King in the Kingdom of Viruses.  
As the hunters get into their doors.  
The siblings of nature is free from their hands.  
They rejoice the pure breathe of air without fear.  
Brooks were flowed in a gentle manner without any disturbance.  
As the wind blows, without restrictions.  
And they are set free from crowded cities and valleys.

It's quite funny that the Nature presented out a gratitude towards govt.  
The policy of lockdown is the profit making season of nature.  
She enjoys it without the fear of black hands.

All the sectors of nature are working day long.  
Even the shadow of lockdown,  
never ever affect the feelings and emotions of nature.  
She expresses her beautiness,  
as in the form of tiny rain droplets.

She expresses her rage,  
as with the expression of fearful thunderstorms.  
Nature voiced again and again  
She knows no lockdown.

-- Keerthana. S. S, HHMSPBNSS College for Women, Neeramankara,  
Thiruvananthapuram, India

### **37. Poem on Coronavirus: Scare way the Pandemic**

Coronavirus, the worst disease,  
  
Hide in your homes, if you please.  
  
A disease killing lives,  
  
And spreading negative vibes,  
  
Symptoms like fever making us weak,  
  
Doctor's help, we need to seek.  
  
Started in China, now, the world is sick,  
  
Let us unite and find a cure, quick.  
  
You will have fever as I told,  
  
You will get headache and a cold.  
  
Following up, then comes cough,  
  
Getting rid of, is now quite tough.

You will get problems of respiration,

Now, we all need prevention.

Muscle pain can come too.

Let us build immunity, me and you.

Wash your hands with some soap,

We'll fight the virus, that's the hope.

Sneeze and cough into a tissue,

Let's take some steps to tackle this issue.

Don't go to crowded places,

Don't be one of those thousand cases,

Visit a doctor if you need care,

Now, just make others, all aware.

-- Poonam Rathore, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, India

### **38. Quarantine of Hope**

Will you but once, step into my shoes?

They're neither by design nor what I chose.

By trampled dreams and throttled shrieks,

My inner voices lie. Poor, beaten freaks!

I have been quarantined, for not a day or two but endless weeks.

In the dark alleys of the heartless heart,  
Where you casually threw me in- bit by bit, part by part.  
I tried to walk and dragged myself to hold in a tight embrace – your love.  
Blind to the shrapnels, the piercing rocks,  
Oblivious to psychotic phobias, terror and shocks.  
My foot swollen, my ribs broken, my breathing was sharp and short.  
You masked my face and sealed my lips. Astounded I stood the stubborn  
cough.  
No utterances fluttered. More blood spluttered. Survival was going to be  
tough!  
I tried to escape from the dungeons and the feverish claws of cold.  
You heaved and towed me in with winks.  
-where demons are at work, and death stinks.

--Dr Alka Jain, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University,  
Jhansi, India

### **39. Wretched Domesticity**

The individual touches insanity  
Of repetitive work.  
Bound to home and hearth  
The Ulysseses shriek for deliverance  
From a dark fate  
That has hounded them  
To embrace wretched domesticity.

Imprisoned in the tall towers  
Of housing societies  
Advised exile  
From the crux of society.  
To nurse the yet undefiled body  
And secure its piousness.  
Eying with suspicion one's very body.



Warned of betrayal  
By the warmth  
Of love  
Seeking shelter  
From the coveted  
Human touch.  
Transformed to an unholy cynic.

The alleged mask  
Wielded by wily humanity  
Hitherto mystified  
Lies unmasked.  
While the foe  
Slyly evades  
Exalting in its imperceivability.

The emperor and the fool  
United in the primeval  
Struggle for survival  
Against the miniscule adversary  
That has eliminated  
All that had stipulated  
The high and the low.

-- Dr Kusumita Mukherjee Debnath, Rajganj College, Totaigach, West  
Bengal, India

#### **40. Restoration**

I know you're helpless  
Breathing in despair somehow  
Confusion blurs your future  
And anxiety your now

Child, I know that question  
You say, "Is it all fair?"  
Just for once, look up to me  
Trust me! For I'm there

Behold, the sun is set in place  
The planets revolve in motion  
The birds find grains everyday  
So I keep account of your every emotion.

Your name is known before I  
Formed you in your mother's womb  
So your life mustn't end at death  
It should go beyond the empty tomb.

Of all the things I've created  
To me you're the most pleasing  
My plans are thus greater than yours  
And my love unceasing.

I've planned a season for you  
I've had a vision for you  
When your heart belongs only to mine  
As heavenly possession you shall shine!

Now you know the pain's reason  
A forgotten memory will be this confusion  
Trusting me more than your mind  
Will soon cede you restoration.

-- Mansi Bongirwar, New Shanti Nagar, Raipur Chhattisgarh, India

#### **41. The Best Way Forward**

Where's all the vision lost and where's fled the foresight  
Where's is the brain with an extraordinary might  
Of critical insight and fool proof expertise?  
Where're the fortune tellers deemed to be wise?  
Has Science that belittles religion abjectly failed  
In resolving this deadlock which has derailed  
The resolute humanity deeply into a dicey dale?  
Why aren't sagacious books now saying a word?  
Who's there to suggest the best way forward?  
Man was in outright alienation even before this  
Precarious situation that's just like a snake hiss  
Stinging at the very fragile roots of empathy  
Resulting from stony man's ruthless apathy  
All unchecked, uncurbed and wanting in sympathy.  
He's prone to growing more listless when it all  
Gets over and space is vacated for an overhaul.  
The sky is crying out loud but it all seems absurd  
Who's there to suggest the best way forward?  
Plethora of opinions and ideas are being presented  
'China or who's responsible' is being pin-pointed  
Governmental moves are lauded, defrauded and resented  
But what perceptible outcome did all this bring about?  
Doesn't 'Nature's revenge' stoutly flout man's all clout?  
Vaccine trails end in a fiasco; hence which port in this storm?  
Pills & panaceas are no cure for disturbing the Nature's norm  
Hunt for a whiff of positivity stands all blurred  
Who?  
When?  
Will ever enlighten us with the best way forward?

-- Rohit Chatrath, Jalandhar City, Punjab, India

## **42. The Unusual Times of Corona**

There is a LOVE in the time of corona. . .

Yes, we have learned -

The communication with God. . .

Without Church, Temple or Mosque

The reality of life.

We postulate exams are important-but

We have learned children are important.

Yes, the stress has gone.

The virus figured achievable

The works done from home-without face -face meetings

Saved the travel time, traffic, pollution, biscuits, water, coffee, tea, air  
conditioning so..on.

We thought Malls are the best place to unwind-But

Our home is the best

The memories of childhood

comes to reality-

home cooking, bed time stories, no homework etc.

It is love in the time of corona.

The belief of Weddings, Birthday parties to be grand-to

Show off our wealth.

But now the birthdays are quiet

To celebrate the fact

"Our children are alive and healthy"

It is love in the time of corona

To learn. . .

To understand. . .

To accept. . .

THE REALITY OF OUR LIFE.

-- Jerlin Flower S, Mulagumoodu, Kanyakumari, India

### **43. Amnesia**

I'm desperately holding on-  
Holding on to the last straws of sanity,  
Balancing myself on the beam  
Of the gurgling garbled talk.  
I find myself quite alone in this walk.  
The music of the incoherent words  
Plays fearless and strong,  
Drowning dissenting mumbles,  
In the notes of a rehearsed song,  
Winding words in the windpipes-  
Wringing off the meaning,  
Twisting and turning the syllables,  
With seamless sensational sensibility:  
Sincerely seeking the sacrifice  
Of the crumbs of crumbling sanity.  
So, I let it slip,  
Slip further and further away.  
Slip down and deep  
Into the flock of sheep,  
Covering the cracks  
With crackling laughter,  
Beating drums and cymbals,  
All arrested in the hypnotic bleats-  
"Good days will come your way! Good days are here to stay!"  
Famished stares,  
Indifferent to the wide-eyed wonder,  
Stare hard at the empty vessel  
That's been this empty for months and years.  
Empty streets, empty hearts,  
Empty promises- gradually falling apart.  
And here I am-  
I'm still holding on to my sanity-

Did I...Did I have it on me?  
May be 'twas some other day.  
I forget.

-- Neelima Chakraborty, Faridabad, India

#### **44. Nature's Call**

The queen that provides us with food,  
Is also mother to one and all.  
When the mother is angry as we hurt her soul -  
We humans have very little, very little in control.  
As the passing by the time that seeks you to act -  
Benevolent ones, not Facebook-react.  
And you learn to love and live to learn,  
From the heaven above smiles Mr Lennon.  
B.B. King ain't singing blues in heaven,  
He knows what's not and what's been forgiven.  
For the integrals, we couldn't solve -  
Look how a new normal has evolved.  
Does those rainbows in the sky today,  
Told a tell that we need to tell?  
For the cycles that once lost its marks -  
We seek forgiveness to thy elements, the 'Lord's.  
Needless to say, there is enough for all -  
The sooner we learn and understand Nature's call.  
Brothers and sisters in our arms,  
Only Love and Peace and no harm.  
When we get all these in a fulfilled dream,  
There won't be any more COVID-19s.  
For we are the human, we have the ability -  
Let us fight for SUSTAINABILITY.

-- Biswajit Debnath, Kolkata, India

## **45. Doomsday**

As if the doomsday is near...  
We are grappling with constant fear...  
We are struggling for survival...

Either each death counts or none at all...  
So death by corona, hunger, cancer or war,  
Is death after all

Are we afflicted by the worst?  
I believe the worst was holocaust  
There's history of deaths  
By mutating viruses,  
And war is a constant threat  
With nuclear weapons come great danger,  
We might die by water or fire  
Or an accident  
But the worst is death by hunger.

-- Dr. Purnima, Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Kamachha, India

## **46. Mask and Task**

No regular do's  
No routine works  
All irregular methods.  
Neither regular celebration  
Nor outings.  
Only interior regeneration.  
All new lessons.  
Nature has given us this new task.

But one thing makes me happy.  
Everyone looks alike to watch.  
Mask has made this possible.  
Mask is now a good word.  
Everyone had a counterfeit face,  
When there was no mask.  
The mask hid it well.

Everyone is on the battlefield  
With angels in the front.  
All the leading fighters are angels.  
They sang 'No caste no religion'  
Only humanity.  
What a good thing!

Many hands are raised,  
Feeding the poor.  
They reached as Gods in the streets,  
Helping the destitute.  
They save us from the angels of death.

There will arise a dawn of hope.  
Many challenges have we faced  
We will succeed in this task of nature

-- Naziya SN, Valiyavila, Thiruvananthapuram, India

#### **47. Pandemic's Panoramic View**

Not then I comprehend my fulminating power  
To which I can extend my hand to  
Nothing was so dreadful, even in imagination  
Alluring in arrival, catastrophic eventually  
Puny in appearance, gigantic in ramification



The bad omen touches my feet  
I entered into the most fragile persona  
Merged the social stratification to unity  
Quenched the creed of pious men  
My inlet envisaged them the value of appetite  
Hunger should be dispatched, not the hungry man  
I patrolled outside, to keep them indoors  
So the bond tied unfathomable and bind them  
All those fledged and flightless birds  
Find their space in the unpolluted air  
I invited the flora- fauna to whirl in the nature  
And the fallible still remained isolated  
I thrived when those minds instill to be united  
When the political rivalry gets puzzled out

-- Priyanka Joseph, St. Thomas College of Teacher Education,  
Pala, Kerala, India

#### **48. Misery**

Silence everywhere, only chirping of birds  
They enjoy their life to the fullest.  
They don't fear the pandemic condition of world;  
Wondering Nature's serene atmosphere.

Anxious humans busy with hoarding things  
Worry about their future.  
Searching for new way of life in this new world  
All changed within two weeks.

The infected world brings panic to minds  
It changed the pleasant faces to harsh  
Can't smile even to children and dear ones  
All smiles vanished from the faces.

No peace of mind..., can't sleep at night  
Dead silence of daytime brings horror

Always at the fear of virus attack  
All humans on earth live with the fear of corona virus.

A woman with sorrowful face worries about her husband abroad  
And she lives with her daughter and aged mother  
Searching always on news of virus attack  
Learned how to tackle the new situation; but no peace of mind.

Cares her daughter and mother by advising to be hygienic,  
Sanitizes everything from outside home,  
Carefully avoids the neighbours without hurting them  
Always keeps a smile on face; but without peace of mind.

Lockdown declared in the country  
She becomes more anxious to fulfil the needs of the family  
Suffers insomnia but pretends as normal,  
Identifies her condition of mind.

She does her home chores as usual,  
Collects news of covid-19 updates,  
Thinks the future of world and her family.  
All changed in her life within two weeks.

Her face became more and more sorrowful,  
She watches the funeral of corona virus victims,  
Feels the minds of their dear ones,  
Lost her presents of in her routines.

One day she gets a call from abroad,  
She faints on the floor  
Her mother and daughter try to return her to life,  
Everything changed in a second.

-- Smitha. T. G. Govt. Brennen College, Thalassery, Kerala, India

## **49. Coronavirus Eradication**

Suddenly a disease called CORONA came  
And it's time to start our game  
As a human, We have to join together  
To avoid the virus spread further  
Maintain distance with others for sometime  
Or else you may affected by anytime  
Your eyes may filled with foam  
But stay home and away from roam  
Stay safe and be brave  
Take care and always be aware  
Otherwise it is not fair  
Nature starts it's revenge and also lost patience  
And so many people are admitted as patient  
Please don't look for your favour  
And it makes you to remain lower  
As a rational being you need to save everything  
And we don't make our generation nothing  
We committed a big blunder by exploitation  
So, reduce your sins by less utilization  
Soon nature will show it's concern and gives us pleasure  
And so it helps to solve our pressure  
So I invite you to save the nature  
Never think selfishly for your future  
Try to change your attitude  
Because it's time to show your gratitude.

-- M. Srivishnupriya, Komarapalayam. Namakkal, India

**50. We can fight with coronavirus -**

Corona has to run away from the country,  
we have not to come out from home. It is our duty to save the country from  
this crisis. Corona warriors have to boost their moral, support them. Our  
unity - integrity has to be shown to the world, everyone has to join hands.  
Cleanliness around us, wash your hands several times, always wear a mask.

To protect your family and loved ones from this epidemic, tell everyone  
about the Arogya Setu App. We will win, against Corona we will do just that.

We will win this battle against Corona by Staying at home.

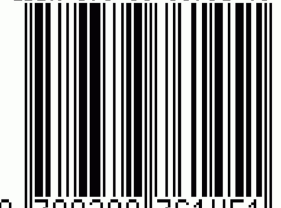
STAY SAFE STAY HOME

-- Ajay Singh Lohiya, 249, Alakdham Nagar Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, India



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